



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The editor is not responsible for opinions expressed in this department. All communications must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer to ensure publication.

ATHLETICS IN THE ARMY SCHOOL OF NURSING

Dear Editor: If, some night this last winter, you could have popped into one of the barracks of the Army School of Nursing at the Walter Reed Hospital about 7:15 p. m., you would have thought you were truly back in college. Work was over for the day and all the students were hurrying out of blue uniforms into warm clothes,—for it would be a cold ride to town in an ambulance. Everyone was going to a basketball game, to help cheer her school team on to victory,—the chief nurse, the supervisors, and ever so many students! This game might have been one of the “home games” played in the big “Y” or in the Red Cross House, for here the Army students played such teams as George Washington University, Wilson Normal School, War Risk Insurance teams, and many others. Probably the idea of physical culture in a School of Nursing is something entirely new to you, but to Army students it is a story almost three years old. Just that long ago the Blue Birds, as they are called, arrived in Army cantonments and posts all over this country, and as a side issue to their training, began the development of organized athletic activities. How awkward they felt when an imposing officer first gave them the command, “Hips firm, on your toes raise, knees bend!” and how many of them lost their balance! But a little time spent every day in “setting up exercises” soon brought them to the stage where they no longer felt they were “upsetting exercises.” This initial step having been taken, next came advanced military drill, and almost any day on the parade ground you could see a company of students executing “right front into line” with apparent ease. At some of the camps the students also procured, through their social directors, opportunities to develop their ideas in aesthetic dancing.

Of all the facilities that the camps and posts have offered for participation in various forms of athletics, probably none are more popular with the average student than the open-air swimming pools and the tennis courts. The more adventurous students enjoy horseback riding, and many an enthusiastic fan turns out for baseball. Many of the students, returning from civilian affiliations, expressed their appreciation of similar opportunities in a few of these hospitals. These forms of athletics have had a three-fold value in the Army School of Nursing. Physically, the students speak for themselves, as on the whole, they are healthy, energetic, and well developed. Interscholastic games have removed the barrier between a nursing school and other institutions of learning. Aside from this social value, the mental relaxation which follows such activity is of decided importance. Organized athletics have proved such a success in the Army School of Nursing and in some other nursing schools, that in time they will be included in the Standard Nursing Curriculum.

J. C. S.

FROM THE U. S. S. RELIEF

II.

Of course, we reached the reservation for the ball game I temptingly told you about, arriving some time before the game was called. We saw many interesting by-plays; the arrival of the Secretary and our Commander-in-chief, who came promptly and were properly welcomed, and the welcome extended to our